CLAIMS

1. A video composition circuit for receiving plural pieces of video data which are successively inputted in serial order, performing a predetermined video processing for predetermined video data, and combining plural pieces of video data to output composite data, comprising:

a video processing unit to which plural pieces of video data are successively inputted in serial order, said video processing unit performing a predetermined video processing for the inputted video data, and outputting the processed video data;

a video data composition unit for combining the plural pieces of video data outputted from the video processing circuit to output composite data; and

a data storage unit for holding the video data outputted from the video data composition unit;

said video data composition unit combining the video data read from the data storage unit and the video data outputted from the video processing unit, as well as combining the plural pieces of video data outputted from the video processing circuit.

2. A video composition circuit as defined in Claim 1 wherein said video processing unit, said data storage unit, and said video data composition unit are constituted on the same chip.

3. A video composition circuit as defined in Claim 1 wherein

the plural pieces of video data successively inputted in serial order are main video, sub-video, and OSD video which is additional information to be displayed simultaneously with these videos, and

the video data composition unit is a circuit having an α-blending function.

4. A video composition circuit as defined in Claim 3 further including

an external storage unit for holding the plural pieces of video data that are successively inputted in serial order, said external storage unit being placed outside the chip; and

said video data composition unit reading the video data outputted from the external storage unit and the α-blended video data which is stored in the data storage unit in the chip, and subjecting these data to α-blending again.

5. A video composition circuit as defined in Claim 3 wherein

said video data composition unit having the α-blending function reads the video data outputted from the external storage unit, and the α-blended video data which is stored in the data storage unit in the chip, and subjects these data to vertical filtering.

6.   A video composition circuit as defined in Claim 1 wherein

said video data composition unit writes the video data which

is obtained as a result of combining the video data read from the

data storage unit and the video data outputted from the video

processing unit, over the video data which has previously been

stored in the data storage unit.